

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellant: Lachelt et al.

Patent Application

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Group Art Unit: 2152

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Examiner: Keehn

For: JOURNALING PROXY IN ACTIVATION SOLUTION

Appeal Brief

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Real Party in Interest

The assignee of the present invention is Hewlett-Packard Company.

Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals or interferences known to the Appellant.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-27 stand rejected. Rejections of claims 1-27 are herein appealed.

Status of Amendments

All proposed amendments have been entered. An amendment subsequent to the Final Action has not been filed.

Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

Independent Claim 1 recites a method of activating a plurality of target elements in a computing arrangement. The method includes receiving a high-level activation request (element 302 of Figure 3 and page 8, paragraph [0033]) pertaining to said plurality of target elements (state 402 of Figure 4 and page 10, paragraph [0040]). The method further includes parsing said high-level activation request into a plurality of atomic requests (state 404 of Figure 4 and page 10, paragraph [0040]) and includes receiving at time t1 a first atomic request of said plurality of atomic requests at a first journaling proxy (proxy 308 of Figure 3 and page 9, paragraph [0036]), said first journaling proxy being associated with a first target element of said plurality of target elements, said first journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element (state 412 of Figure 4 and page 10, paragraph [0042]).

Independent Claim 12 recites an arrangement for activating a target element comprising an activation engine (304 of Figure 3 and page 8, paragraph [0033]) and a journaling proxy (308 of Figure 3 and page 9, paragraph [0036]) coupled to said activation engine and said target element (306a, 306b, 306c of Figure 3), said journaling proxy being configured to receive an atomic request (element 302 of Figure 3 and page 8, paragraph [0033]) from said activation engine at time t1, said journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said atomic request to said target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said target element (state 412 of Figure 4 and page 10, paragraph [0042]).

Independent Claim 20 recites an article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium having computer readable code embodied therein, said computer readable code being configured to activate a target element (element

302 of Figure 3 and page 8, paragraph [0033]) in a computing arrangement. The computer readable code for receiving an atomic request at a journaling proxy from an activation engine (state 402 of Figure 4 and page 10, paragraph [0040]). The computer readable code also for intentionally delaying execution of said atomic request by said target element until a time that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said target element (state 412 of Figure 4 and page 10, paragraph [0042]).

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

1. Claims 1-2, 7-13, 18-21 and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Refai (2004/0139193) in view of Shapiro (2004/0267823).

2. Claims 3-6, 14-17 and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Refai in view of Rockwell (Rockwell Automation's Non-Patent Literature publication 1785-6.1).

Arguments

1. Whether Claims 1-2, 7-13, 18-21 and 25-27 are patentable over Refai (2004/0139193) in view of Shapiro (2004/0267823).

Appellants have reviewed Refai and do not understand Refai to teach a “first journaling proxy being associated with a first target element of said plurality of target elements, said first journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element,” as claimed. In fact, appellants do not understand Refai to teach or suggest a journaling proxy associated with a target element at all.

Refai may teach delaying servicing of a PCR until the start of the viable window (when the PCR is not attended), but this is not performed by a journaling proxy associated with a target element and is not the same as a “proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element,” as claimed. In the described scenario of Refai, delaying servicing occurs “unattended operation” meaning when an operator is not interacting with the PCR. (Refai, paragraphs 82-95).

Shapiro fails to remedy the deficiencies of Refai. Specifically, Shapiro fails to teach or suggest “first journaling proxy being associated with a first target element of said plurality of target elements, said first journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element,” as claimed.

Shapiro teaches a reconcilable file system (RFS) proxy that provides a reconciliation engine 212 with object constraints that present a relationship between primitive actions from two clients (paragraph 38). The RFS proxy of Shapiro does not “intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element,” as claimed, but merely provides object constraints to the reconciliation engine.

For this rational, Appellants submit that neither Refai nor Shapiro, alone or in combination teach or suggest all of the claimed features of the present invention as set forth in Independent Claims 1, 12 and 20. As such, appellants believe Claims 1-2, 7-13, 18-21 and 25-27 are patentable over Refai in view of Shapiro and respectfully request the rejection be removed.

2. Whether Claims 3-6, 14-17 and 22-24 are patentable over Refai in view of Rockwell (Rockwell Automation's Non-Patent Literature publication 1785-6.1)..

Claims 3-6, 14-17 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Refai in view of Rockwell Automation's non-patent literature publication 1785-6.1 (Rockwell). The rejection is respectfully traversed for the following rational.

As stated above, Refai may teach delaying servicing of a PCR until the start of the viable window (when the PCR is not attended), but this is not performed by a journaling proxy associated with a target element and is not the same as a "proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element," as claimed. In the described scenario of Refai, delaying servicing occurs "unattended operation" meaning when an operator is not interacting with the PCR. (Refai, paragraphs 82-95).

Rockwell fails to remedy the deficiencies of Refai. Specifically, Rockwell fails to teach or suggest "first journaling proxy being associated with a first target element of said plurality of target elements, said first journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for

execution until a time t₂ that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element,” as claimed.

For this rational, Appellants submit that neither Refai nor Rockwell, alone or in combination teach or suggest all of the claimed features of the present invention as set forth in Independent Claims 1, 12 and 20. As such, appellants believe Claims 3-6, 14-17 and 22-24 are patentable over Refai in view of Rockwell and respectfully request the rejection be removed.

The Appellants wish to encourage the Examiner or a member of the Board of Patent Appeals to telephone the Appellant's undersigned representative if it is felt that a telephone conference could expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Claims Appendix

1. A method of activating a plurality of target elements in a computing arrangement, comprising:
 - receiving a high-level activation request pertaining to said plurality of target elements;
 - parsing said high-level activation request into a plurality of atomic requests; and
 - receiving at time t1 a first atomic request of said plurality of atomic requests at a first journaling proxy, said first journaling proxy being associated with a first target element of said plurality of target elements, said first journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said first atomic request to said first target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said set of predefined configuration parameters for said first target element specifies a predefined time window within which said executing said first atomic request occurs.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said first atomic request includes resetting said first target element to a predetermined value, said resetting only occurs after a predefined number of reset-containing requests for said first target element are accumulated by said first journaling proxy since said first target element was last reset, said resetting only occurs once at said first target element for said predefined number of reset-containing requests.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said first atomic request includes resetting said first target element to a predetermined value, said resetting of said first target element only occurs after an expiration of a predefined time period since said first target element was last reset.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said first atomic request includes resetting said first target element to a predetermined value, said resetting only occurs after an expiration of a predefined time period since said first atomic request is received by said first journaling proxy.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said first atomic request includes resetting said first target element to a predetermined value, said time t2 occurs responsive to a first occurrence of one of a first event and a second event, said first event representing an accumulation of a predefined number of reset-containing requests for said first target element by said first journaling proxy, said second event representing an expiration of a predefined time period since said first atomic request is received by said first journaling proxy.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein only a subset of target devices that receive atomic requests parsed from said high-level request are associated with journaling proxies.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein each target device of said subset is associated with a different journaling proxy.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising sending a qualified success message from said first journaling proxy to said activation engine after said first atomic request is received at said first journaling proxy, said qualified success message enabling said activation engine to consider said high-level request a provisional success in order to attend to any other pending high-level activation request.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said qualified success message is sent only after said first journaling proxy ascertains that said first target element is

capable of performing all tasks specified by said first atomic request but for at least one unsatisfied parameter in said predefined configuration parameters.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising undoing all completed atomic tasks that have been completed pursuant to said high level activation request if said first target element is unable to complete said first atomic request when said first atomic request is executed at said first target element.

12. An arrangement for activating a target element, comprising:
an activation engine; and
a journaling proxy coupled to said activation engine and said target element, said journaling proxy being configured to receive an atomic request from said activation engine at time t1, said journaling proxy intentionally delaying sending said atomic request to said target element for execution until a time t2 that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said target element.

13. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein said set of predefined configuration parameters for said target element specifies a predefined time window within which said executing said atomic request occurs.

14. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said resetting only occurs after a predefined number of reset-containing requests for said target element are accumulated by said journaling proxy since said target element was last reset, said resetting only occurs once at said target element for said predefined number of reset-containing requests.

15. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said resetting only occurs

after an expiration of a predefined time period since said target element was last reset.

16. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said resetting only occurs after an expiration of a predefined time period since said atomic request is received by said journaling proxy.

17. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said time t2 occurs responsive to a first occurrence of one of a first event and a second event, said first event representing an accumulation of a predefined number of reset-containing requests for said target element by said journaling proxy, said second event representing an expiration of a predefined time period since said atomic request is received by said journaling proxy.

18. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein said journaling proxy is configured to send a qualified success message to said activation engine after said atomic request is received at said journaling proxy, said qualified success message enabling said activation engine to consider said high-level request a provisional success in order to attend to any other pending high-level activation request.

19. The arrangement of claim 18 wherein said qualified success message is sent only after said journaling proxy ascertains that said target element is capable of performing all tasks specified by said atomic request but for at least one unsatisfied parameter in said predefined configuration parameters.

20. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium having computer readable code embodied therein, said computer readable code being configured to activate a target element in a computing arrangement, comprising:

computer readable code for receiving an atomic request at a journaling proxy from an activation engine; and

computer readable code for intentionally delaying execution of said atomic request by said target element until a time that satisfies a set of predefined configuration parameters for said target element.

21. The article of manufacture of claim 20 wherein said set of predefined configuration parameters for said target element specifies a predefined time window within which said executing said atomic request occurs.

22. The article of manufacture of claim 20 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said computer readable code for said intentionally delaying includes computer readable code for permitting resetting of said target element only after a predefined number of reset-containing requests for said target element are received said journaling proxy since said target element was last reset, said resetting only occurs once at said target element for said predefined number of reset-containing requests.

23. The article of manufacture of claim 20 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said computer readable code for said intentionally delaying includes computer readable code for permitting resetting of said target element only after an expiration of a predefined time period since said target element was last reset.

24. The article of manufacture of claim 20 wherein said atomic request includes resetting said target element to a predetermined value, said computer readable code for said intentionally delaying includes computer readable code for permitting resetting of said target element only after an expiration of a predefined time period since said atomic request was received by said journaling proxy.

25. The article of manufacture of claim 20 further comprising computer readable code for sending a qualified success message from said journaling proxy to said activation engine after said atomic request is received at said journaling proxy, said qualified success message enabling said activation engine to consider a high-level request that contains said atomic request a provisional success in order to attend to any other pending high-level activation request.

26. The article of manufacture of claim 25 wherein said qualified success message is sent only after said journaling proxy ascertains that said target element is capable of performing all tasks specified by said atomic request but for at least one unsatisfied parameter in said predefined configuration parameters.

27. The article of manufacture of claim 20 further comprising undoing all completed atomic tasks that have been completed pursuant to said high level activation request if said target element is unable to complete said atomic request when said atomic request is executed at said target element.

Evidence Appendix

None

Related Proceedings Appendix

None